

THE DIRECTOR OF
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Action please
National Intelligence Council *Charlie*

10 September 1985

NOTE FOR: NIO/CT

SUBJECT: Warning of Terrorist Attack

REFERENCE: Your Memo, Subject as above,
dated 4 September 1985

I have appointed [] NWS,
to be available to [] to provide
requisite staff assistance. []
can be reached at the Pentagon, Room 1C921,
[]

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John J. Bird
John J. Bird

9-11-85

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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

4 September 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: National Intelligence Officer for Warning

FROM: Charles E. Allen
National Intelligence Officer for Counterterrorism and
Narcotics

SUBJECT: Warning of Terrorist Attack

1. Providing US installations overseas detailed, accurate, and timely warning of impending terrorist attack is perhaps the single most important and difficult task facing counterterrorism. Terrorist groups are particularly difficult collection targets, so the data we have to work with is often fragmentary and inconsistent--seemingly inadequate for an ordered, rigorous approach.

2. In your capacity as NIO for Warning, you are familiar with the various techniques used for warning of the Soviet attack and warning of lesser conventional problems. I would very much appreciate your assistance in reviewing that array of techniques to determine whether any can improve our warning capabilities with respect to terrorism.

3. The Interagency Intelligence Committee on Terrorism (IICT), which I chair, has a Subcommittee on Warning. With your concurrence, I will ask the chairman of that subcommittee, DIA, to work with you and your staff in a general review of warning techniques to determine those which show promise to the counterterrorism problem and to recommend to the IICT how to develop those techniques for practical application.

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Charles E. Allen

cc: DIA

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